AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (currently amended): A digital camera comprising

an image pickup device for shooting a subject image,

motion picture compression means for compressing on a per frame basis the motion picture data of a subject image shot with said image pickup device and recording the compressed data onto a recording medium,

marking instruction means for instructing addition of marking data to an arbitrary frame in recording said motion picture data onto said recording medium,

marking means for adding marking data to a frame specified by said marking instruction means,

search means for reading the compressed motion picture data from said recording medium and for detecting a frame where said marking data is added while reading motion picture data from said recording medium, from the compressed motion picture data read from the recording medium;

motion picture decompression means for decompressing the frame and a predetermined number of frames in the neighborhood of the frame on a per frame basis each time the frame where said marking data is added is detected by the search means,

playback means for replaying the decompressed frame,

selection means for selecting an arbitrary frame displayed during playback by said playback means, and

still picture data recording means for recording a frame selected by said selection means

as still picture data onto said recording medium.

2.   (original): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein said recording medium

is a nonvolatile recording medium detachable from a digital camera main unit.

3.   (original): A digital camera according to claim 1, further comprising an interface

for outputting still picture data recorded on said recording medium to an external device.

4.   (previously presented): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the

marking instruction means instructs addition of marking data to the arbitrary frame in accordance

with an instruction from a user.

5.   (previously presented): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the

playback means, in addition to the replaying of the decompressed frame, replays the

predetermined number of decompressed frames in the neighborhood of the decompressed frame

prior to the selection of the arbitrary frame by said selection means.

6.   (previously presented): A digital camera according to claim 5, wherein the

playback means replays the decompressed frame and the predetermined number of

decompressed frames in the neighborhood of the decompressed frame at a playback speed that is

less than half of a regular playback speed of the playback means.

7.   (previously presented):   A digital camera according to claim 6, wherein the playback is speed is one-fourth the regular speed.

8.   (previously presented):   A digital camera according to claim 7, wherein the decompressed frame and the predetermined number of decompressed frames in the neighborhood of the decompressed frame are converted to four-frame data.

9.   (previously presented): A digital camera according to claim 5, wherein the selection means selects the arbitrary frame displayed during the playback in accordance with an instruction from a user.

10.   (previously presented): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the selection means selects the arbitrary frame displayed during the playback in accordance with an instruction from a user.

11.   (currently amended): A digital camera according to claim 5, wherein the predetermined number of decompressed frames in the neighborhood of the decompressed frame are frames preceding to the decompressed frame.

12.   (previously presented): A digital camera according to claim 5, wherein the predetermined number of decompressed frames in the neighborhood of the decompressed frame are frames subsequent to the decompressed frame.

13.   (currently amended): A digital camera according to claim 5, wherein the predetermined number of decompressed frames in the neighborhood of the decompressed frame are frames preceding to the decompressed frame and frames subsequent to the decompressed frame.

14.   (previously presented): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the marking instruction means instructs addition of marking data to a plurality of frames, the marking means adds marking data to said plurality of frames specified by said marking instruction means, and said search means detects said plurality of frames where said marking data is added while reading motion picture data from said recording medium.

15.   (previously presented): A digital camera according to claim 14, wherein the search means detects said plurality of frames where said marking data is added after an end of shooting the subject image.

16.   (new): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the search means detects the frame where said marking data is added after an end of shooting the subject image.

17.   (new): A digital camera according to claim 1, wherein the digital camera includes the recording medium.

18.   (new): A camera comprising

an image pickup circuit that shoots a subject image and generates motion picture data;

a compression circuit that compresses on a per frame basis the motion picture data of the

subject image shot with said image pickup circuit and records the compressed data onto a

recording medium,

an instruction circuit that instructs addition of marking data to an arbitrary frame of the

compressed motion picture data compressed by the compression circuit, while the image pickup

circuit shoots the subject image;

a marking circuit that adds marking data to the arbitrary frame specified by said

instruction circuit, wherein the marking circuit generates modified motion picture data of the

subject image that includes the marking data to the arbitrary frame;

a first recording circuit that records the compressed and modified motion picture data

generated by the marking circuit onto the recording medium;

a search circuit that reads the compressed motion picture data from the recording medium

and detects a frame where said marking data is added from the compressed motion picture data

read from the recording medium;

a decompression circuit that decompresses the detected frame and a predetermined

number of frames in the neighborhood of the detected frame on a per frame basis each time a

frame where said marking data is added is detected by the search circuit,

a playback circuit that plays back the detected decompressed frame and the

predetermined number of decompressed frames in the neighborhood of said detected frame,

when the search circuit finds the detected frame;

a selection circuit for selecting a desired frame among the detected frame and the

predetermined number of the frames in the neighborhood of said detected frame during playback

by said playback circuit; and

a second recording circuit that records the desired frame, selected via said selection

circuit, as a still picture onto said recording medium.